



September 14, 2009

Ex Parte Filing

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

*Re: A National Broadband Plan for Our Future (GN Docket No. 09-51)
Fostering Innovation and Investment in the Wireless
Communications Market (GN Docket No. 09-157)*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Monday, September 14, 2009, John Clarey, Chairman and CEO of the National Medical Wireless Broadband Alliance (NMWBA), Steve Solomon, President of NMWBA, and Janice Obuchowski, met with Charles Mathias, Assistant Bureau Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

Mr. Clarey and Mr. Solomon introduced themselves and NMWBA. They then discussed the accompanying slides.

In accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's Rules, please accept this electronic filing for submission. Should you have any questions or concerns in connection with this submission, please contact me at (703) 516-3020.

Sincerely,

Janice Obuchowski

cc: Charles Mathias

Vision for Health Care Connectivity: *Broadband at the Point of Care*



FCC: Healthcare Broadband Workshop

**John Clarey, Chairman
National Medical Wireless Broadband Alliance**

September 15, 2009

NMWBA: Who We Are

Formed to provide high-speed wireless broadband access for nurses, doctors, healthcare and public safety workers, health IT specialists, patients and the communities they serve.

Consists of more than 100 member hospitals nationwide, and growing.

Focused on developing wireless broadband solutions via open access middle mile infrastructure.

Addressing wireless broadband connectivity challenges to support telehealth, first responder communications and use/development of life-saving health IT technologies.

Founders' extensive track record in deploying state-of-the-art, practical networking solutions.



Challenge: Overcoming Broadband 'Chokepoints'

Challenge: Closed wireless systems in hospitals act as a choke-point to developing and using innovative technologies for patient care.

Impact: In-building chokepoints limit broadband adoption in hospitals and act as hurdles to:

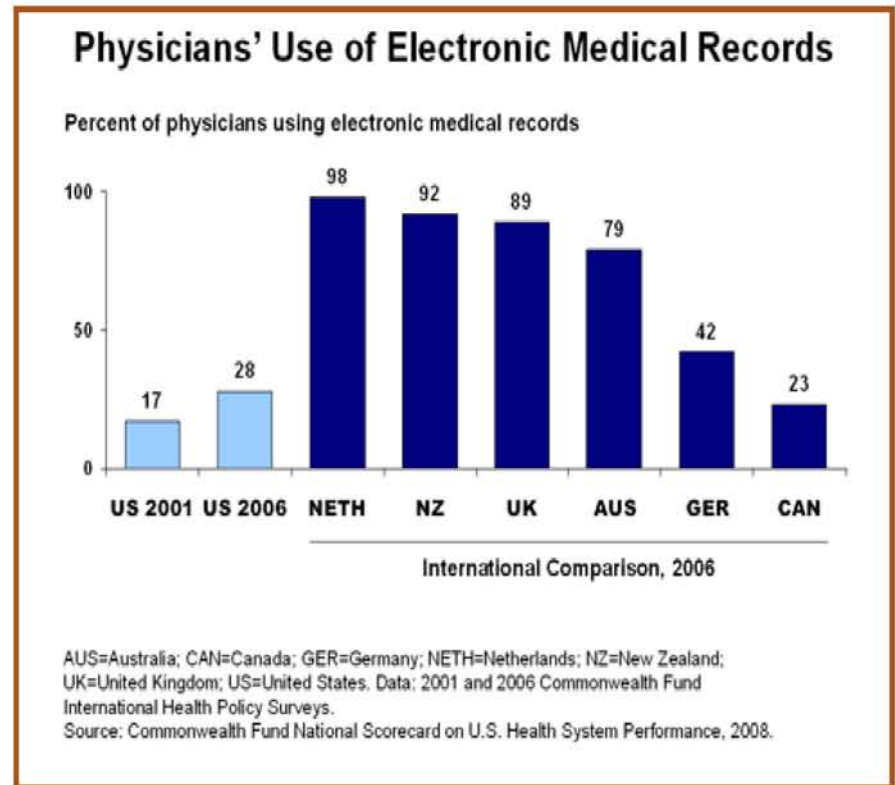
Cost savings

Technology innovation

Interconnectivity, upgradeability.

Solution: Technology-neutral, open access wireless broadband systems enable any wireless device in each facility to access any other wireless networks.

Wireless middle mile is only way realistically to quickly upgrade existing hospital infrastructure.



Open Wireless Access Changes the Technology Paradigm

Open access platforms depart from an investment cycle in proprietary wireless systems that do not work across multiple technologies, networks and applications.

These systems also do not allow connectivity within or across health care facilities.

Middle mile solutions for wireless broadband provide a critical connection between diverse wireless systems, technologies and devices and in-building hospital applications.

With technology-neutral platforms, health care providers do not carry new burdens of technology risk.

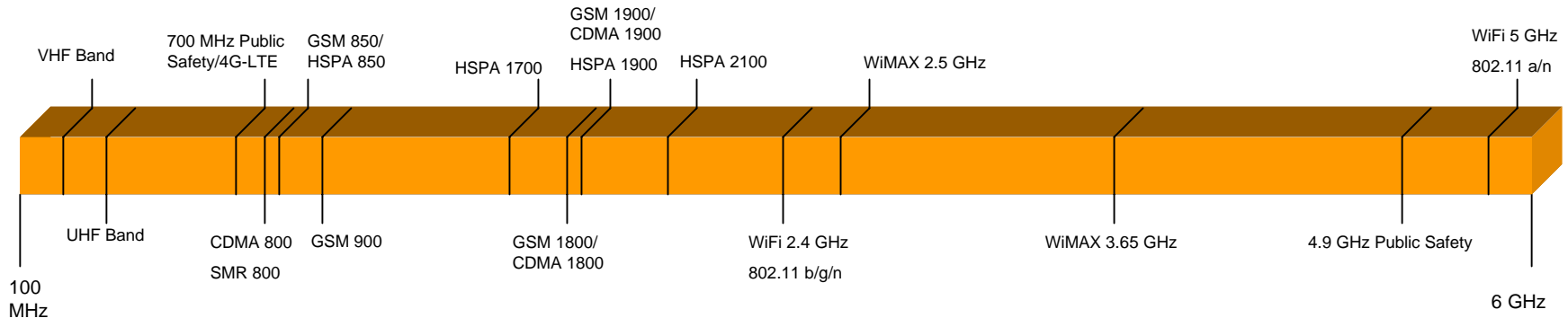
Open platforms build a common broadband pipe to foster technology innovation in wireless medical applications.



Wireless Connectivity

The following frequencies are used in hospitals in the US.

To ensure patient safety and maximize healthcare, all frequencies must have adequate signal strength throughout the facility.



- VHF Band = Public Safety, In-house Radios, Security Systems
- UHF Band = Public Safety, In-house Radios, Security Systems
- LTE 700 = Verizon (2009-10) and AT&T (2010-2011)
- CDMA 800/1800/1900 = Verizon, Sprint
- GSM/UMTS/HSPA 850/900/1700/1800/1900/2100 = T-Mobile, AT&T
- SMR IDEN 800 = Nextel
- WiMAX 2.5 GHz = Clearwire

Open Access Changes Funding Paradigm

“Our recovery plan will invest in electronic health records and new technology that will reduce errors, bring down costs, ensure privacy, and save lives.”

President Obama, February 24, 2009, speech to Joint Session of Congress

- In the past, hospitals installed ‘a la carte’ systems because they were subsidized by service providers.
- How much public funding is needed to facilitate this paradigm shift...depends on how quickly deployment happens.
 - Hospitals are in the business of providing health care, not telecom and IT, so funding options for broadband are limited.

The Alliance’s open access approach addresses challenge of how hospitals build wireless broadband platforms.

- Interconnected and scalable
- Cost-effective: Platform is hospital-centric, not service-provider-centric.
- Fast: Enables rapid deployment of new services
- Innovation-focused: Expedites adoption and use of electronic health records by health care providers within hospitals.

Way Forward: Benefits of Wireless Broadband

- Remote pharmacy medical administration (tracking/accessing patient records);
- Remote EKG systems (quick reporting capabilities);
- Physician portals;
- Promotion of wireless innovation for end user devices and use of telemedicine.
- Public safety communications to and within health care facilities;
- Better network reliability and redundancy.